

GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by M. H. Swenk

A Snow Bunting Banded in Michigan Shot in Greenland.—A bird banding return came to me today (December 14, 1931) which gives me the following information: "You will be interested to know that information has been received to the effect that a Snow Bunting (which I) banded on February 17, 1931, was shot by R. Harring at Igdlorpait, Julianehaab District, Greenland, on April 30, 1931."—OSCAR M. BYRENS, *McMillan, Mich.*

The Barn Owl Nesting in Southeastern South Dakota.—A pair of Barn Owls (*Tyto alba pratincola*) nested by the James River near Yankton in the summer of 1931. I was out of town when the nest was found, about the middle of August. It was made a news item, containing a description of the young birds, and stating that no one knew whether they were eagles, hawks, or owls. Of course it was not difficult to decide between these. On September 17, the young birds were still in the nest. I have seen very few Barn Owls here, but am particularly surprised at their nesting so late in the season.—A. P. LARRABEE, *Yankton College, Yankton, S. D.*

Red Crossbills at Viroqua, Wisconsin.—On August 6, 1931, I had the pleasure of having a small flock of Red Crossbills (*Loxia curvirostra pusilla*) come to the bird bath. Glancing from the window, two birds caught my attention as being different from the usual birds that frequent our small place. Out doors with my binoculars I was able to steal up to within about twenty feet. There were six, all in the bath at one time, fluttering and throwing the water about. They were quite unafraid and undisturbed by anything around them. It was easy to distinguish the crossed bills in the short time that they remained.—MARGARETTE E. MORSE, *Viroqua, Wis.*

Florida Gallinule Eats Goldfish.—On April 23, 1931, a live Florida Gallinule (*Gallinula chloropus cachinnans*) was brought to the Buffalo (New York) Museum of Sciences. It was given the run of the corridor in the preparator's department, and often jumped into an open aquarium, where it fed upon water plants. Four days after its capture it was observed to eat a dead goldfish which it flailed against the concrete floor before eating it. The bird became very tame and by April 29 it was greedily accepting bits of raw beef tossed to it from the distance of one foot. On the following day the bird took food from its owner's hands.—LOUIS B. KALTER, *Dayton, Ohio.*

A Spotted Sandpiper Incubates Five Eggs.—On June 28, 1931, while serving as a ranger naturalist in the Educational Division of the Department of Interior, at Old Faithful in Yellowstone Park, Wyoming, I found, along the bank of the Firehole River, a Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*) on its nest. The nest was in an ideal location on the south side of the bank and sheltered by an overhanging tuft of sod.

Upon chasing the adult bird from the nest I found five spotted dark brown eggs. Five eggs are rather an exception to the rule. Most literature citations and records from observations show that the Spotted Sandpiper lays and incubates four eggs.

I visited the nest on each of the following three days, and it was empty on the third day, when the mother and young were nowhere to be found.—GEORGE A. SMITH, *Brown University, Providence, R. I.*